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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY Austria

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Melk, Goepfritz, Allentsteig, Moedling and Klosterneuburg

618452

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 24 March 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 10 February 1954, 26 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and six trucks were in the courtyard of the Mirago Kaserne in Melk (O 49/W 68). Soldiers and motor vehicles observed at the installation, which was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets and another soldier on the sentry platform on the roof, included two lieutenant colonels wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; one major wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; two majors wearing black-bordered black epaulets; soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; jeep driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets and occupied by a lieutenant colonel red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; and truck driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Twenty-six soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and carrying rifles held marching practices southwest of the installation.¹

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2. On 9 February 1954, two lieutenant colonels wearing black-bordered red epaulets, one major wearing black-bordered red epaulets, two majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, one major wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, one major wearing black-bordered black insignia, and nine enlisted men wearing black-bordered red, red-bordered black, and black-bordered black epaulets, who had boarded the train from Vienna in Tulln (O 49/ S 10), were taken from the Goepfritz (O 49/R 64) railroad station toward the training grounds by trucks

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The cars of the train included no Soviet postal car. The Soviet reserve cars were no longer at the railroad station which showed no tracks or imprints indicative of loading or unloading activity. Soldiers loaded sacks onto two trucks at the ration supply depot in the former factory building. Reports of guns were heard from the direction of the training grounds.

3. Soldiers and motor vehicles observed at the Allentsteig (O 49/R 53) kommandatura and the entrance to the training grounds on 9 February 1954 included two lieutenant colonels wearing black-bordered red epaulets, one lieutenant colonel wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, two

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major wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, sedan [redacted] and driving school trucks [redacted] both driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black, and black-bordered red epaulets.²

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4. Officers observed at the former Federal Trade School in Loedling (O 49/A 77) on 8 February 1954, were mainly red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia and partially black-bordered red epaulets. They included five lieutenant colonels wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, three majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, and six field officers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. Motor vehicles observed at the installation included truck [redacted] sedan [redacted] trucks [redacted] all driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, sedan [redacted] and truck [redacted] truck [redacted] and jeep [redacted] all driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, sedan [redacted] truck [redacted] and jeeps [redacted] and [redacted] both driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, sedan [redacted] jeep [redacted] and truck [redacted] seven armored scout cars, 10 signal trucks with antenna bases, and seven trucks [redacted] were in the former motor vehicle and aircraft engine factory on Gabrieler Strasse, which was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Individual soldiers carrying reels, and field telephones and equipped with headphones were in the courtyard of the Byrtle Orphanage where jeeps [redacted] both driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were observed.³

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5. On 9 February 1954, trucks [redacted] both driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets and loaded with coal, passed through the main gate of the former Pioneer Kaserne in Klosterneuburg (O 49/b 30), which was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Jeep [redacted] driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, parked in front of the installation. Timber for bridge construction was piled up beside the northwestern gate, which was guarded by a sentry wearing black-bordered black epaulets. Soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, trucks [redacted] and jeep [redacted] all driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were observed at the former engineer ordnance office. Under the supervision of officers about 300 soldiers received training, partially with two guns which presumably were 57-mm AT guns, on the drill ground southeast of the former engineer ordnance office. Twelve [redacted] soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying four mortars of about 80 mm, each disassembled into two loads, marched from the ground to the former Pioneer Kaserne.⁴

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1. Comment. The 233d Gds Gun Arty Regt is stationed at Belk. [redacted]

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2. Comment. [redacted] guns heard in Goepfritz from the direction of the troop training grounds on 9 February indicate record firings which may have been held by the 344th Gds How Arty Regt stationed at Allentsteig or other units rotated to the troop training ground. The absence of any imprints and tracks indicative of unloading or loading activities at the Goepfritz railroad station may indicate that the 344th Gds How Arty Regt stationed at Allentsteig was the firing unit. [redacted]

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3. Comment.

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The motor vehicles observed in the former motor vehicle and aircraft engine factory on Gatrieler Strasse belong to the 13th Gds Recz Div. The armored scout cars and the signal trucks may have been vehicles of the unidentified motorcycle battalion and the 139th (Gds?) Sig Bn of the 13th Gds Recz Div. The individual soldiers in the courtyard of the Kyrtl Orphanage who carried signal equipment presumably belonged to the signal battalion of the 13th Gds Recz Div. Jeep [redacted] is a USIA motor vehicle.

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4. Comment.

The sentry wearing black-bordered black epaulets at the northwestern gate of the former Pioneer Kaserne and the timber for bridge construction piled up there are indicative of the 2th Gds Ingr Bn which is also stationed at Klosterneuburg.

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